

Message Text

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20

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 OMB-01 AID-05 /081 W

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P R 191041Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2478

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LIVREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN

AMCONSUL KADUNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12553

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, PFOR, AO, NI, US

SUBJECT: OBASANJO SEEKS US UNDERSTANDING OF FMG POSITION ON
ANGOLA

1. CHIEF CHRIS OGUNBANJO, PRESIDENT OF NIGERIAN-AMERICAN CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE, SOUGHT ME OUT YESTERDAY. HE SAID THAT LAST SUNDAY
NIGERIAN SUPREME ARMED FORCES COMMANDER BRIGADIER OBASANJO ASKED
HIM TO STOP BY HIS HOUSE. THE TWO MEN ARE OLD FRIENDS AND
AND STILL SEE EACH OTHER FROM TIME TO TIME INFORMALLY. OBASANJO
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GAVE HOM APPROXIMATELY THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE.

2. QTE YOU HAVE CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THE AMERICANS AND WITH AMBASSADOR EASUM. PLEASE TELL THEM HOW IMPORTANT WE BELIEVE IT IS THAT THE US UNDERSTAND THE NIGERIAN POSITION ON THE ANGOLAN QUESTION. TELL THEM THAT WE ARE SATISFIED WITH THE ASSCRANCES THE MPLA HAS GIVEN US THAT THEY WILL BE IN NO ONE'S DEBT IF THEY TAKE OVER IN ANGOLA. WE ARE LESS OPTIMISTIC REGARDING THE FNLA-UNITA RELATIONSHIP WITH SOUTH AFRICA. UNQTE.

3. OGUNBANJO SAID HE HAD WANTED TO RELAY THIS MESSAGE MORE PROMPTLY BUT KNEW I WAS VISITNG NORTHERN STATE CAPITALS.

4. COMMENT: THIS IS ANOTHER INDICATION THAT (A) FMG DECISION RECOGNIZE MPLA MAY REMAIN CONTROVERSIAL WITHIN INNER CIRCLE OF FMG, AND (B) FMG UNCOMFORTABLE CONCERNING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN US AND NIGERIA ON THIS ISSUE.
EASUM

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NNN

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